

HO-1037

George Powers Blacksmith House  
2760 Washington Road (Route 97)  
Private

#### DESCRIPTION:

The George Powers Blacksmith House has suffered severe fire damage, especially to the southwestern wing. The main block is a 1 ½-story, four-bay by one-bay log structure with a parged foundation, German siding fastened with wire nails, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northeast-southwest ridge. There is a brick chimney between the east-center and east bays. The three bays to the southwest are the original section and have V-notch cornering to the logs, with a one-bay addition on the northeast that has vertical corner posts against the original log section. The first story of the main block has a parged fireplace at the northeast end of the original southwestern section, with an enclosed winder stair that partially survives in the west corner. The southwest addition was a two-story structure with two rooms, one to the southeast and one to the northwest. It was built of sash-sawn 2 by 4 studs with German siding fastened with cut nails on the exterior.

#### SIGNIFICANCE:

The George Powers Blacksmith House dates to well before the acquisition of the property by Powers in 1874, though limited documentation and analysis of the building could be made because of a fire in 2010 that severely damaged the building and necessitated its demolition. The 1860 Martenet *Map of Howard County* shows a blacksmith shop, owned by Charles D. Warfield, just north of Union Chapel. This is probably the earliest record of the blacksmith property located here, but the house surely dated much earlier. The building was built in at least three stages, with the southwestern half of the log section having been built first, with V-notch corners. The blacksmith's house sat on part of the farm of Charles D. Warfield, known as "Bushy Park." Warfield bequeathed the farm to his son, Charles D. Warfield, Jr., and he, in turn, sold the farm of over 400 acres to Aaron Chadwick and E. Spencer Chadwick in 1866. Throughout this time the blacksmith house and shop must have been leased to local craftsmen. The Chadwicks sold just over three acres to George Powers in 1874, and in May 1878 the *Ellicott City Times* noted Powers had completed a comfortable dwelling that was probably the southwestern frame addition to the existing log house.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO- 1037

## 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic George Powers Blacksmith House

other

## 2. Location

street and number 2760 Washington Road (Route 97) not for publication

city, town Glenwood X vicinity

county Howard

## 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Frederick V. Titus

street and number PO Box 216 telephone 301-787-9518

city, town Glenwood state MD zip code 21738

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse liber 642 folio 168

city, town Ellicott City tax map 14 tax parcel 110 tax ID number

## 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	2 0 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	0 0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	0 0 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	0 0 objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	2 0 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			0

## 7. Description

Inventory No. HO- 1037

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

### SUMMARY:

The George Powers Blacksmith House has suffered severe fire damage, especially to the southwestern wing. The main block is a 1 ½-story, four-bay by one-bay log structure with a parged foundation, German siding fastened with wire nails, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northeast-southwest ridge. There is a brick chimney between the east-center and east bays. The three bays to the southwest are the original section and have V-notch cornering to the logs, with a one-bay addition on the northeast that has vertical corner posts against the original log section. The first story of the main block has a parged fireplace at the northeast end of the original southwestern section, with an enclosed winder stair that partially survives in the west corner. The southwest addition was a two-story structure with two rooms, one to the southeast and one to the northwest. It was built of sash-sawn 2 by 4 studs with German siding fastened with cut nails on the exterior.

### DESCRIPTION:

The George Powers Blacksmith House is located at 2760 Washington Road (Route 97) near Glenwood in western Howard County, Maryland. The complex consists of a log and frame house and frame garage on the west side of the road, facing southeast toward the road on a steeply sloped site that runs down toward the road.

#### House

The house has suffered severe fire damage, especially to the southwestern wing. The main block is a 1 ½-story, four-bay by one-bay log structure with a parged foundation, German siding fastened with wire nails, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northeast-southwest ridge. There is a brick chimney between the east-center and east bays. The three bays to the southwest are the original section and have V-notch cornering to the logs, with a one-bay addition on the northeast that has vertical corner posts against the original log section.

On the southeast elevation the first story has a door in the center of the original three bays, with a window to each side and a three-bay, one-story porch on the front with three turned wood posts, a stone deck, v-groove board soffit, and open eaves. All of the openings are boarded up. The upper story has a central gabled wall dormer that is missing its sash. There is a box cornice.

The southeast elevation of the northeast addition, on the first story, has a window opening with a modern frame and the remains of a vinyl sash. The upper story has a central gabled wall dormer with a vinyl one-over-one sash and a box cornice.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO- 1037

Name  
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

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The northeast elevation has a steel cellar bulkhead door on a stone foundation. The first story has a boarded-up window opening and the gable end has no opening. The northwest elevation, on the first story, has a boarded-up doorway in the north bay, a boarded-up window opening in the center, and a boarded-up window opening in the west bay that was a doorway earlier and has been in-filled at the bottom with German siding. In the upper story the north bay has a small window opening, beneath the eave, that has head-cut trim. The center bay has had siding removed, which exposes a corner post to the north and v-notches to the west, with a window opening to the west of it. The west bay has a gabled wall dormer with a large window opening. The north bay of the roof has a skylight. At the west corner the parging is gone, revealing a rotted log at ground level. The exterior faces of the logs on both sections of this elevation are whitewashed.

The southwest elevation of the main block has a window opening in the center of the first story with 1-inch-thick board jambs pegged to the log ends. A doorway was cut through this wall to the south of the window opening to get access to the southwest addition, and the boards around this doorway are fastened with cut nails.

The first story of the main block has a parged fireplace at the northeast end of the original southwestern section, with a simple, charred wood mantel. A doorway to the east of the fireplace is blocked by debris. There is an enclosed winder stair that partially survives in the west corner, with beaded vertical boards. There is sawn vertical lath with plaster on the walls, and plaster on lath on the ceiling. The half walls of the upper story are of logs. The northeast addition has a new bathroom in the east corner of the first story.

The southwest addition was a two-story structure with two rooms, one to the southeast and one to the northwest. It has a rubble stone foundation, and was built of sash-sawn 2 by 4 studs with circular-sawn lath on the interior and German siding fastened with cut nails on the exterior. No portion of the roof survives. The southeast room on the first story has random-width pine flooring that runs northwest-southeast and is 3 to 5 inches wide. There is a fireplace centered on the northwest wall, with splayed brick jambs and a parged surround. It has a wood mantel with applied plaques on the pilasters and frieze. The addition projects beyond the front porch of the main block. The northwest room has plaster on brick on the back side of the southeast room fireplace. To the southwest of this is a built-in cupboard that is now all burned. Part of the west corner post survives and is 4 inches square.

There is a one-story, shed-roofed modern addition on the northwest side of the southwest addition, and it contains a kitchen. On the northwest side of this is a shed-roofed open porch.

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. HO- 1037

Name  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 7 Page 2

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**Garage**

There is a garage about 75 feet northwest of the house. It is a one-story, two-bay by two-bay frame structure with a concrete foundation, board and batten siding, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northwest-southeast ridge. There are holes in the roof. The southeast elevation has two pair of large doors of beaded-edge-and-center vertical boards, and they are hung on T hinges. The southwest and northeast elevations each have two six-light sash. The northwest elevation has a Dutch door to the north, of beaded-edge-and-center vertical boards, and a six-light sash to the west. The garage is built of circular-sawn 2 by 4s.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. HO- 1037

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Construction dates c. 1820-50, c. 1850-65, 1878

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

### SUMMARY:

The George Powers Blacksmith House dates to well before the acquisition of the property by Powers in 1874, though limited documentation and analysis of the building could be made because of a fire in 2010 that severely damaged the building and necessitated its demolition. The 1860 Martenet *Map of Howard County* shows a blacksmith shop, owned by Charles D. Warfield, just north of Union Chapel. This is probably the earliest record of the blacksmith property located here, but the house surely dated much earlier. The building was built in at least three stages, with the southwestern half of the log section having been built first, with V-notch corners. The blacksmith's house sat on part of the farm of Charles D. Warfield, known as "Bushy Park." Warfield bequeathed the farm to his son, Charles D. Warfield, Jr., and he, in turn, sold the farm of over 400 acres to Aaron Chadwick and E. Spencer Chadwick in 1866. Throughout this time the blacksmith house and shop must have been leased to local craftsmen. The Chadwicks sold just over three acres to George Powers in 1874, and in May 1878 the *Ellicott City Times* noted Powers had completed a comfortable dwelling that was probably the southwestern frame addition to the existing log house.

### SIGNIFICANCE:

The George Powers Blacksmith House dates to well before the acquisition of the property by Powers in 1874, though limited documentation and analysis of the building could be made because of a fire that severely damaged the building and necessitated its demolition. The 1860 Martenet *Map of Howard County* shows a blacksmith shop, owned by Charles D. Warfield, just north of Union Chapel. This is probably the earliest record of the blacksmith property located here, but the house surely dated much earlier. The building was built in at least three stages, with the southwestern half of the log section having been built first, of logs with V-notch corners. The window and door openings had thin jamb boards pegged to the log ends, a construction technique that generally dates between c. 1820 and 1850. The northeastern half of the log section was clearly added, since corner posts were used at the



# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of

### Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO- 1037

Name  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

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southwestern end of the addition, where it abutted the southwestern half of the building. At some time the front of the log house was given two cross gables and the rear one cross gable, with the latter set off-center. These gabled dormers were popularized by A. J. Downing, especially with the publication of his book *The Architecture of Country Houses* in 1850, though most examples in Howard County date c. 1890-1910. It is not clear whether they were put on in the mid-nineteenth century or as part of a later remodeling program, but they were not commonly found on log houses in Howard County. A two-story balloon-frame section of two rooms was added to the southwest end of the house, and this contained a brick fireplace in the center with a wood mantel in the south room that had chamfered pilasters with applied plaques on them. The mantel is consistent with the last quarter of the nineteenth century.

The blacksmith's house sat on part of the farm of Charles D. Warfield, known as "Bushy Park." Warfield bequeathed the farm to his son, Charles D. Warfield, Jr., and he, in turn, sold the farm of over 400 acres to Aaron Chadwick and E. Spencer Chadwick in 1866. Throughout this time the blacksmith house and shop must have been leased to local craftsmen. The Chadwicks sold just over three acres to George Powers in 1874, and in May 1878 the *Ellicott City Times* noted: "George W. Powers, our enterprising blacksmith, has completed a very neat and comfortable dwelling, which is handsomely painted and proves quite an ornament to the neighborhood." The dwelling that Powers completed was probably the southwestern frame addition to the existing log house. While not located in a town, the shop was on a heavily travelled turnpike road, and such sites were a common alternative to towns for craftsmen like blacksmiths. George Powers died in late 1905, and the property probably ceased to operate as a blacksmith shop at that time, if not earlier, though it remained in the family at least until 1934. The house caught fire in late September, 2010 and was scheduled to be demolished in the spring of 2011.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Warfield, Founders, pp. 349, 447-48, 466. Joshua Dorsey Warfield, *The Warfields of Maryland* (Baltimore: The Daily Record Co., 1898): 20-21, 53-54. *Ellicott City (Maryland) Times*, 18 May 1878, p. 2, col. 6. Larry Carson, "Log Home in Howard County Destroyed in Fire; No one Hurt." *Baltimore Sun*, 26 September 2010, p. 8.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO- 1037

See footnotes

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1.32 A  
Acreage of historical setting 3 A  
Quadrangle name Woodbine

Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of the outlines of the property, tax map 14, parcel 110, which encompasses all of the historic buildings and features on the site.

## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Ken Short		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	October 2011
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state	MD

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



GEORGE POWERS BLACKSMITH HOUSE (HO-1037)

2760 WASHINGTON ROAD (RT. 97)

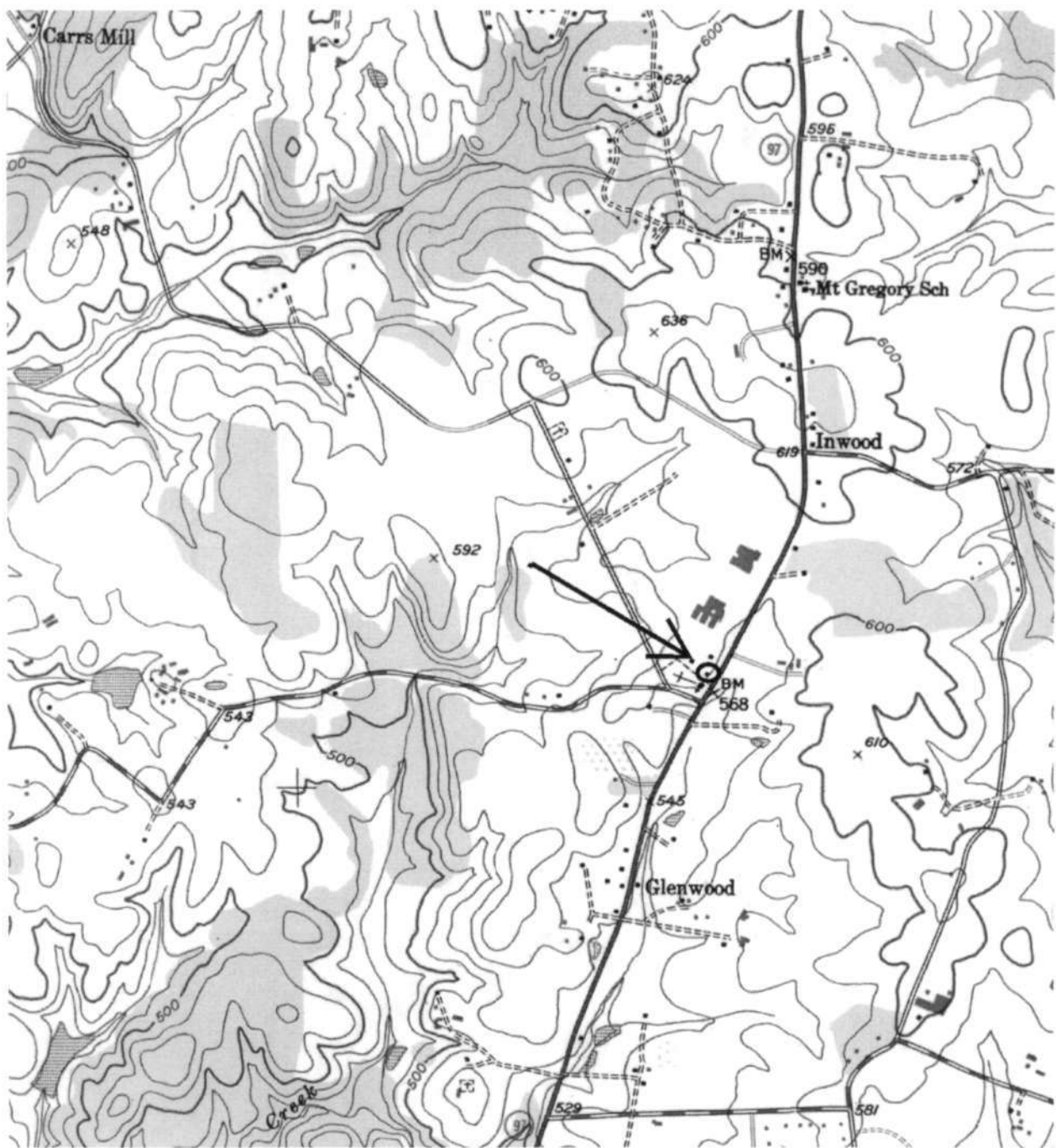
CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Jesse F. & Mary W. M. Hakes (H/W) / Howard	Frederick V. & Kay Collins Titus (H/W) / Howard	22 June 1973	CMP 642-168	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	1.328 A	p/o 5 <sup>th</sup> parcel below
Mauritz A. Hallgren & wf Elisabeth S. / Howard	Jesse F. Hakes & wf Mary W. M. / Balto. City	27 Nov. 1943	BM Jr. 180-191	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	?	(5) located bet. the property of Sarah & Edgar Powers & Oak Grove Cemetery & Union Chapel 6 parcels
Margaret L. Wilcoxon, widow / AA	Elisabeth S. Hallgren / Howard	3 Oct. 1936	BM Jr. 155-221	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00 & assumption of mortgage of \$600	?	2 parcels
George L. Duvall & wf Ellen Mary / Balto. City George Oliver Powers, exec of George W. Powers / Howard, et al	Margaret L. Wilcoxon / AA	13 June 1934	BM Jr. 149-137	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	?	
Mary E. Duvall Laura V. Powers	Mary L. Gardiner George L. Duvall Mildred H. Duvall Hollis P. Duvall	Written 1923  Probated 6 June 1933	Wills MFB 7-407				
George W. Powers		Written 11 Sept. 1894  Probated 2 Jan. 1906	Wills WHM 4-330				
Aaron Chadwick & wf Emma / Howard John Chadwick & wf Ann S. / Schenectady, NY	George W. Powers / Howard	1 Jan. 1874	LJW 35-182	Deed – fee simple	\$1,000	3 A 8 P	“The Dependence” [no previous reference]
E. Spencer Chadwick / Howard	John Chadwick / Schenectady Co, NY	4 Oct. 1868	WWW 28-482	Deed – fee simple	\$1.00 & release on mortgage	?	See WWW 26-100

GEORGE POWERS BLANCHARD SMITH HOUSE (HO-1037)  
2760 WASHINGTON ROAD (RT. 97)

CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Charles D. Warfield & wf Isabella / Howard	Aaron Chadwick E. Spencer Chadwick / Howard	5 Dec. 1866	WWW 26-100	Deed – fee simple	\$18,000	(A) 200 A (B) 238 A	Lot 2 p/o Dependence Justifiable Ridgelys Great Park (A) exclusive of church lot on Westminster Rd (B) minus burial ground
Dr. Evan W. Warfield & wf Sally Ann / Howard Charles D. Warfield & wf Isabella / Howard	----	23 Sept. 1861	WWW 21-511	Deed of Partition Fee simple	--	263 A 238 A	Sally Ann & Charles D. are tenants in common p/o Good Will, Ridgelys Great Park, Dependence & Last of April – see will of Charles D. Warfield to sons Alexander G. & Philemon H. G.
Charles D. Warfield	Charles D. Warfield		<u>Wills</u>				



HO-1037  
George Powers Blacksmith House  
2760 Washington Road (Rt. 97)  
Woodbine quad

HO- 1037

George Powers Blacksmith House  
2760 Washington Road (Rt. 97)  
Howard County, Maryland  
Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log

Nikon D-70 camera  
HP Premium Plus paper  
HP Gray Photo print cartridge

HO-1037\_2011-03-28\_01

House, southeast elevation, from south

HO-1037\_2011-03-28\_02

House, southwest elevation, from west

HO-1037\_2011-03-28\_03

House, northeast & northwest elevations

HO-1037\_2011-03-28\_04

House, southwest room in log section, vw.  
northeast

HO-1037\_2011-03-28\_05

House, south room in frame section, mantel

HO-1037\_2011-03-28\_06

Garage, southeast & northeast elevations



HO-1037

George Powers Blacksmith House

2760 Washington Road (Rt. 97)

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2011-03-28

MD SHPO

House, southeast elevation, from south

1 of 6





HO-1037

George Powers Blacksmith House  
2760 Washington Road (Rt. 97)  
Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2011-03-28

MD SHPO

House, southwest elevation, from west

2 of 6



HO-1037

George Powers Blacksmith House  
2760 Washington Road (Rt. 97)  
Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short  
2011-03-28

MD SHPO

House, northeast + northwest elevations  
3 of 6



HO-1037

George Powers Blacksmith House  
2760 Washington Road (24.97)

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2011-03-28

MD SHPO

House, southwest room in log section, v.w.  
northeast

H of 6





40-1037

George Powers Blacksmith House

2760 Washington Road (Rt. 97)

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2011-03-28

MD SHPO

House, south room in frame section, mantel

5 of 6



HD-1037

George Powers Blacksmith House

2760 Washington Road (Rt. 97)

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2011-03-28

MD SHPO

garage, southeast + northeast elevations

6 of 6